

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : Hiroyuki SUGAWARA et al.  
Serial No. : 10/638,988  
For : DATA STORAGE SYSTEM  
Filed : August 12, 2003  
Examiner : Jay A. Morrison  
Art Unit : 2168  
Confirmation No.: : 6298

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151

<p><b><u>CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING</u></b></p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via Electronic Filing Services on October 23, 2007.</p> <p><u>PATRICIA A. DUBAYNE</u> (Name of person signing transmittal)</p> <p><u>Patricia A. Dubayne</u> Signature</p> <p><u>October 23, 2007</u> Date of Signature</p>
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FILED WITH  
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Mailstop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The following amendment is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination and is responsive to the Office Action mailed October 9, 2007. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.